



iLEAD
CHRONICLE

WELCOME TO OUR INAUGURAL
NEWSLETTER

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Who are we?

We are an African laboratory initiative called iLEAD (Innovation in Laboratory Engineered Accelerated Diagnostics). Our activities promote innovation, novel solutions and social entrepreneurship in the medical diagnostic arena focusing on a variety of themes within the laboratory value chain. We operate from across three centres of excellence in South Africa, Mozambique and Senegal.

Visit our website:
www.ileadinnovation.africa

#accessthroughinnovation #iLEAD
#Laboratory #Medicine #Innovation
#HealthCare #DigitalHealth
#laboratorymedicine



What does iLEAD strive for?

iLEAD strives to identify and introduce innovative solutions across the laboratory value chain with the overall aim to improve national program management at a public health level. Therefore, iLEAD aims to achieve changes in technologies, systems, populations or behaviours by incubating selected innovations that focus on improving patient care in high burden areas of priority diseases, that improve healthcare worker engagement and that improve services at the clinical laboratory interface, as well as within the centralised testing laboratory.

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Meet the Team

iLEAD's three centres of excellence are in South Africa, Senegal and Mozambique and are lead by Professors Wendy Stevens, Souleymane Mboup and Dr Ilesh Jani, respectively. This unique collaboration has a deep understanding of the challenges across the laboratory network within the African region.

Meet them and their team through our website: www.ileadinnovation.africa

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PROF. SOULEYMANE MBOUP

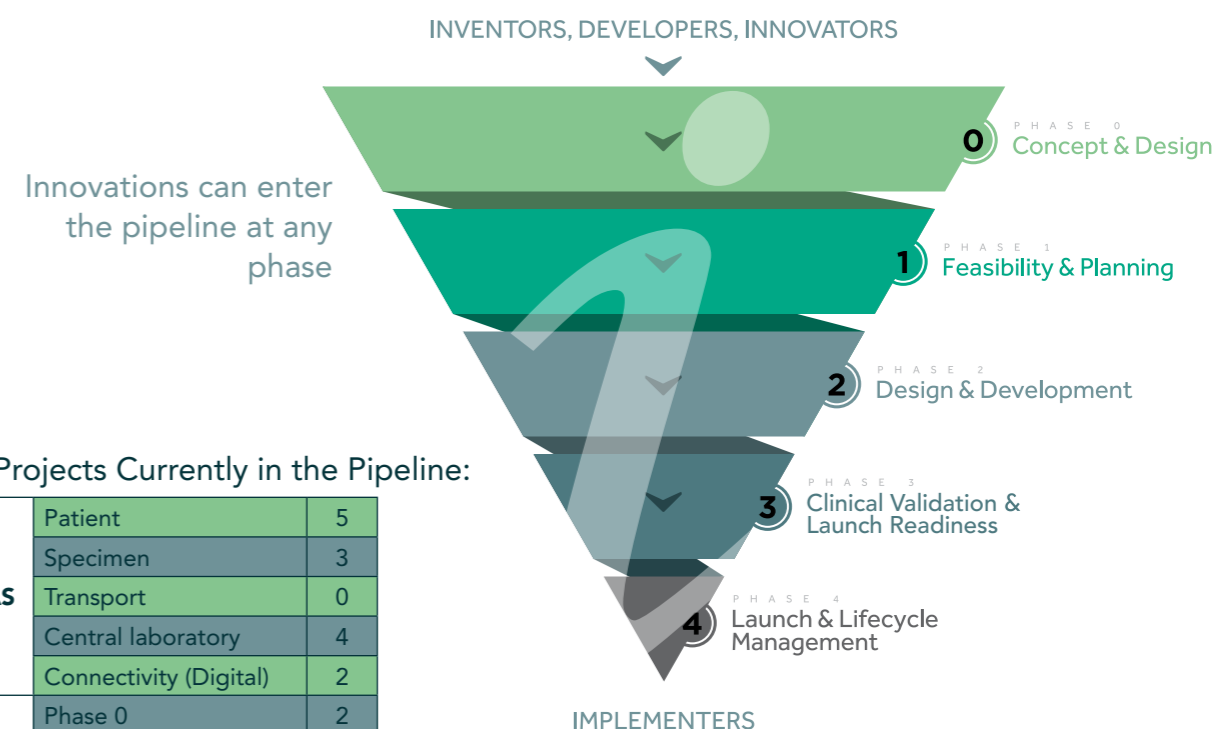


PROF. WENDY STEVENS



DR ILESH JANI

iLEAD's Innovation Pipeline



Number of Projects Currently in the Pipeline:

FOCUS AREAS	Patient	5
	Specimen	3
	Transport	0
	Central laboratory	4
	Connectivity (Digital)	2
PROJECT PHASES	Phase 0	2
	Phase 1	3
	Phase 2	6
	Phase 3	3

Primary disease areas of existing innovations:
HIV, TB, STIs, Hepatitis
(Innovations are not limited to the above disease areas)

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED INNOVATION

cobas® Plasma Antiretroviral Therapy Separation Cards for HIV-1 Monitoring

Changing the face of HIV-Viral Load testing in Africa: iLEAD evaluates the new cobas® Plasma Separation Cards for HIV-1 Antiretroviral Therapy monitoring

On 6 January 2018, Roche Molecular Systems announced the launch of their cobas® Plasma Separation Card (PSC)

<https://www.roche.com/investors/updates/inv-update-2018-01-04.htm>



To further understand the needs of this innovation within the African region, iLEAD is currently evaluating the cobas® Plasma Separation Card (PSC) technology at the Instituto Nacional de Saúde (INS), Mozambique. iLEAD's Country Lead in Mozambique is Dr Ilesh Jani and the project is managed by Nadia Siteo (iLEAD Project Manager). The plasma HIV-Viral Load (VL) test is the preferred antiretroviral therapy monitoring test. Gold standard EDTA plasma samples are heat sensitive and thus need to be transported to the laboratory at 2-8°C to the laboratory within 24 hours.

This in turn creates logistical challenges, especially in regions where approximately half of the patients attend clinics where HIV-VL samples cannot reach the testing laboratory within 24 hours. The cobas® PSCs are revolutionary in that they can be transported to the laboratory within 28 days,

at a temperature range of 18-45°C and up to a humidity of 85%. Stability and analytical performance of the cobas® PSC in HIV-VL testing was initially demonstrated in a study conducted in Johannesburg, South Africa by Carmona, et al. This study demonstrated that the overall concordance between the cobas® PSC and plasma HIV-VL was high and that the cobas® PSC tolerated high temperatures and high humidity levels for up to 4 weeks.

Reference: (1) S. Carmona, B. Seiverth, D. Magubane, L. Hans, M. Hoppler. "A Compelling alternative to dried blood spots – cobas® Plasma separation card for the quantification of HIV-1RNA viral load". 22nd International AIDS Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands. 23-27 July 2018.

INFORMATION ON PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES PROFILED DO NOT EQUATE TO ENDORSEMENT.

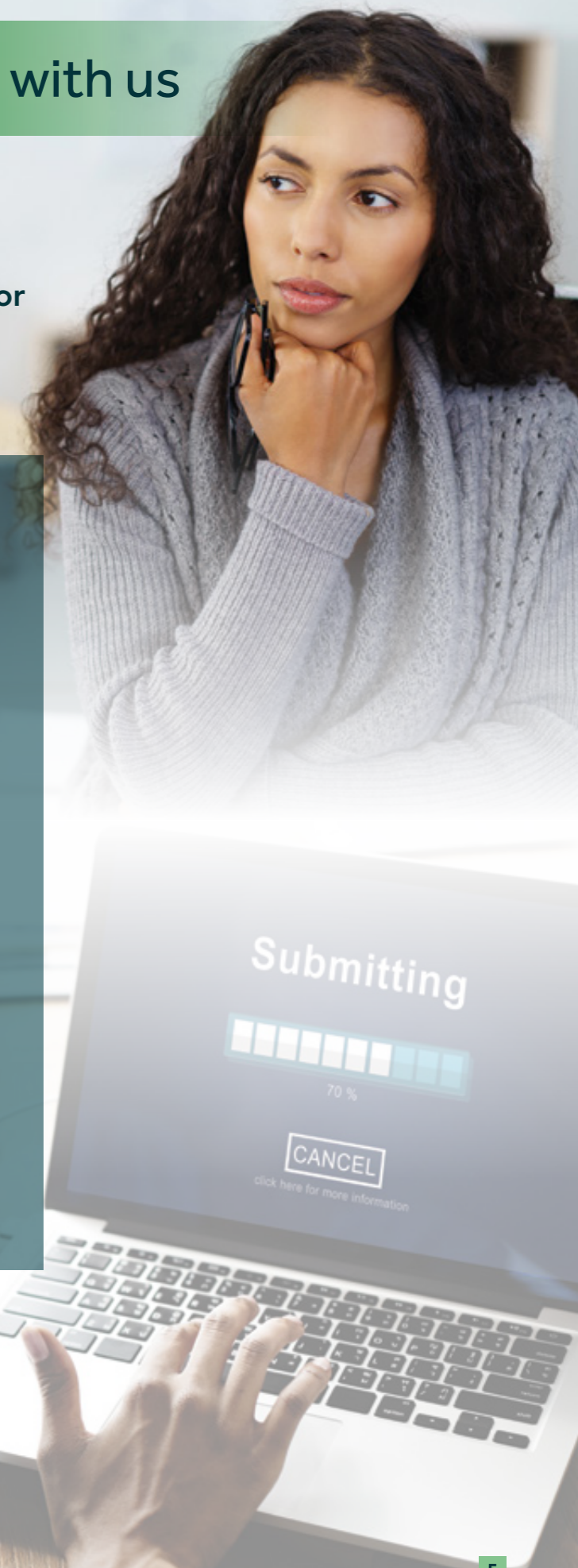
We invite you to innovate with us

Do you have an innovation that has the potential to decrease the global burden of disease or strengthen health systems or even an innovation that embraces digital health transformation?

Then submit your concept to us online! If your innovation is aligned with iLEAD's mission to align innovations across the laboratory value chain, then we may be able to assist you realizing the full potential of your innovation!

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 #accessthroughinnovation #iLEAD #Laboratory
 #Medicine #Innovation #HealthCare
 #DigitalHealth #laboratorymedicine

iLEAD strives to identify and introduce innovative solutions across the laboratory value chain to improve patient care in high burden disease areas, to improve healthcare worker engagement and to improve services at the clinical-laboratory interface and within the centralised laboratory.



Meet the team behind the cobas® PSC project in Mozambique



Dr Ilesh Jani (iLEAD Country Lead, Mozambique)

is the Director General of the Instituto Nacional de Saúde (National Institute of Health) in Mozambique. Dr Jani's research interests involve HIV/AIDS vaccines and point-of-care laboratory tests, including the deployment of these technologies in resource-limited health systems. Dr Jani is currently leading various projects in the areas of research, public health and education with the objective of strengthening the health systems in Mozambique. He is a member of the Executive Board of the International Association of the National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI), a member of the World Health Organisation's Strategic Advisory Group of experts (SAGE) on immunisation and he is a member of the Program Committee of the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI).

Nádia Siteo, MSc (iLEAD Project Manager)

is the head of the Cellular Immunology Laboratory at the Instituto Nacional de Saúde (National Institute of Health) in Mozambique.

Her research interests include immunology of HIV/AIDS and its coinfection and point-of-care testing for HIV. Currently, she is the Sequel laboratory coordinator of the TB multicentre study, in a Mozambique. She has experience in working as biologist in a CD4 testing network and in laboratory quality system management. Nadia is the Project Manager for iLEAD Mozambique.



Overall goal of iLEAD

- Expand an African innovation laboratory network to accelerate the development of innovative products and systems across the laboratory value chain
- Provide measurable outcomes for patient care by strengthening laboratory services in Africa
- Leveraging from existing regional skills and infrastructure to improve laboratory services
- Begin the "Inclusive Innovation Conversation" for laboratory systems in Africa between global public and private partners
- Assist in achieving the HIV 90/90/90 target and finding the missing million TB cases

Areas of impact

- Assist in improving patient and healthcare clinical experience, patient and specimen tracking, laboratory workflow efficiencies and linkage to care
- New or improved laboratory diagnostics, systems, workflows and digital health interventions
- Improve disease control and monitoring or improved public health management by applying program digital health innovations





iLEAD CHRONICLE

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